



Agency Coordination for

YOUTH PREVENTION & INTERVENTION SERVICES

October 2016



TEXAS
JUVENILE★JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT



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Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Executive Summary..... | 2 |
| SECTION 1: Legislative Charge..... | 3 |
| SECTION 2: Interagency Workgroup: A Shared Understanding..... | 4 |
| SECTION 3: An Overview of Juvenile Delinquency and Dropout Prevention and Intervention Services in Texas..... | 5 |
| TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES (DFPS)..... | 5 |
| <i>Community Youth Development</i> | 5 |
| <i>Statewide Youth Services Network</i> | 6 |
| TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT (TJJD)..... | 7 |
| <i>Prevention and Early Intervention Programs</i> | 7 |
| TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY (TEA)..... | 9 |
| <i>Communities In Schools (CIS)</i> | 9 |
| <i>Amachi Texas (Mentoring)</i> | 10 |
| <i>21st Century Community Learning Centers</i> | 11 |
| <i>Texas Academic Innovation and Mentoring</i> | 13 |
| TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT..... | 14 |
| <i>Texas ChalleNGe Academy (TCA)</i> | 14 |
| SECTION 4: Dropout and Delinquency Prevention and Intervention Coordination Activities of Rider 17.07 Workgroup..... | 15 |
| SECTION 5: Key Considerations and Next Steps in Coordinating Services..... | 17 |
| APPENDIX A: Detailed Information of Workgroup Agency Delinquency and Dropout Prevention and Intervention Services..... | 20 |
| APPENDIX B: Delinquency and Dropout Prevention Practices: Pursuing a Developmental Continuum of Services..... | 45 |
| APPENDIX C: Dropout and Delinquency Prevention Resources..... | 46 |
| APPENDIX D: Military Families and Veterans Pilot Program | 47 |
| APPENDIX E: Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs | 48 |

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Executive Summary

The following report was prepared by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Military Department (formerly the Adjutant General's Department) in accordance with the 2016-2017 General Appropriations Act. Section 17.07 of Article IX directed the named state agencies to coordinate the delivery of juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services and to report to the Legislative Budget Board detailed monitoring, tracking, utilization, outcome, and effectiveness information on all juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services for the preceding five fiscal year period.

To carry out this work, an interagency workgroup was formed with representation from the four named state agencies. The group met to learn about one another's programming; to identify key considerations in the coordination, planning and delivery of services; and to identify opportunities to enhance the coordination, planning and delivery of prevention and intervention services. Each of the named agencies summarized its dropout and delinquency prevention efforts, providing a snapshot of services, eligibility criteria, and outcomes from each program for which data is tracked. The complete matrix is found in Appendix A. Additionally, each agency submitted brief overviews of its dropout and delinquency prevention efforts, including monitoring information, outcomes, and available data.

This report includes the legislatively required information, along with a description of coordination activities accomplished by the workgroup to date. The report also includes an examination of the impact of truancy reform enacted by the 84th Texas Legislature on the delivery of dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention services; the prevalence of serious mental health concerns in youth served by dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention programs; and opportunities to further improve the coordination of services.

The report also presents information about two programs which are not funded as part of the state's dropout or delinquency prevention strategies yet help the state achieve its dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention goals: the Department of Family and Protective Services' Military Families and Veterans Pilot program and the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEPs), a statutory collaboration between the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

SECTION 1: Legislative Charge

2016-2017 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, Sec.17.07

AGENCY COORDINATION FOR YOUTH PREVENTION & INTERVENTION SERVICES

From funds appropriated above for the purpose of juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Military Department shall coordinate the delivery of juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services. Juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services are programs or services that are aimed at preventing academic failure, failure on state assessments, dropout, juvenile delinquency, truancy, runaways, and children living in family conflict. Each of the agencies listed above shall coordinate services with the others to prevent redundancy and to ensure optimal service delivery to youth at risk of engaging in delinquency and/or dropping out of school. Programs shall demonstrate effectiveness through established outcomes.

Not later than October 1 of each fiscal year, the agencies shall provide to the Legislative Budget Board, detailed monitoring, tracking, utilization, outcome, and effectiveness information on all juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services for the preceding five fiscal year period. The reports shall include information on the impact of all juvenile delinquency and dropout prevention and intervention initiatives and programs delivered or monitored by the agencies.

SECTION 2:

Interagency Workgroup: A Shared Understanding

While Texas has seen recent decreases among youth in rates of both school dropout and juvenile justice referrals, the individual and social costs associated with their continued occurrence compel state agencies serving youth to do more to help them succeed in education and preventing further contacts with the justice system. Specifically, there were 62,535 formal referrals to juvenile probation departments throughout the state in fiscal year 2015, a 2% decrease from the previous year's 63,914 formal referrals.

As the state continues to look for ways to more effectively and efficiently coordinate services that support the positive development of youth and decrease dropout and delinquency rates, there is a shared understanding among the workgroup members of the agencies named in Rider 17.07 of the need for:

- (1) **Preventing or mitigating the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), including trauma, which impact the way children and youth think, learn, and behave.**¹ According to research, the developing brain is highly sensitive to the presence of stress hormones. When present in high levels or over long periods of time, stress hormones can physically alter structures in a child's brain that control decision making, regulation of emotions, and the processing of information. Programs that prevent or mitigate the impact of ACEs will reduce the broad burden ACEs place on education, justice, and health and human service systems.
- (2) **Implementing interventions targeting both risk factors and protective factors linked to reducing dropout and delinquency.** It is not enough to stop something "bad" from happening. Prevention and early intervention goals should include fostering resiliency and competency in children and youth to overcome inevitable challenges and be equipped for success at home, in school, and into adulthood.
- (3) **Aligning and coordinating with other programs that target common risk and protective factors.** A strong interconnectedness exists among dropout and delinquency and other social problems, such as truancy, substance abuse, abuse and neglect, suicide, teen pregnancy, and domestic violence. Prevention efforts that focus exclusively on one domain and fail to acknowledge the strong interconnectedness among risk factors stunt state goals to reduce negative outcomes and increase positive outcomes.
- (4) **Recognizing the roles of families, schools and communities in increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors among children and youth.** Many risk and protective factors for dropout, delinquency, and other social concerns of children and youth are attributes of their families, schools and communities. Families, schools and communities can serve not only as milieus for interventions; they can also be the targets of intervention effort.
- (5) **Viewing prevention and intervention efforts as a continuum, not one time endeavors.** Resiliency develops over time, building upon protective factors, such as relationships established in early childhood, and evolving as a child grows into school age and adolescence. Just as youth may require "booster" shots to extend the protection of childhood vaccinations, youth will benefit from regular doses of prevention and intervention efforts that are tailored to their evolving developmental needs.

¹ See the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/>

SECTION 3:

An Overview of Juvenile Delinquency and Dropout Prevention and Intervention Services in Texas

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES (DFPS)

The Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Division with DFPS contracts with community-based agencies and organizations to provide services designed to prevent the abuse, neglect, delinquency, and truancy of Texas children. Services are voluntary and are provided at no cost to participants, however all services are not available statewide.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Contracts are formally monitored through a statewide monitoring plan based on a risk assessment Instrument. This is done annually and includes the areas of fiscal, administrative, and program. Contracts are also regularly reviewed through submission of contractor quarterly reports and review of data and reports from the PEI database. If a deficiency or issue is identified regarding contract performance, contract managers and/or program specialists work with contractors in implementing Corrective Action Plans. Performance outcomes, outputs and efficiencies by fiscal year are listed below.

COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The Community Youth Development (CYD) program contracts with community-based organizations to provide juvenile delinquency prevention services in 15 areas of the state with a high incidence of juvenile crime. Communities prioritize and develop prevention services according to local needs. Approaches include youth-leadership development, life-skills classes, character education, conflict resolution, tutoring, mentoring, career preparation, and recreation. The 83rd Legislature increased funding for CYD to include three additional zip codes starting in FY2017.

Client Eligibility: Youth ages 6-17, with a focus on youth ages 10-17, who live in or attend school in one of the designated zip codes.

| COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (CYD) | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| FY: | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Percentage of CYD youth not referred to juvenile probation | 98.8% | 98.1% | 98.6% | 98.8% | 98.6% |
| Annual number of youth served | 19,731 | 16,900 | 16,767 | 17,932 | 16,526 |
| Average monthly number of youth served | 6,158 | 5,530 | 5,530 | 6,914 | 5,951 |
| Average monthly cost per youth served | \$82.77 | \$69.91 | \$71.63 | \$62.11 | \$81.05 |

STATEWIDE YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK (SYSN)

These services are evidence-based, prevention services provided by established statewide networks of community-based prevention programs that must work to prevent juvenile delinquency and create positive outcomes for youth by increasing protective factors.

Client Eligibility: At-risk youth between the ages of 6-17 years of age, with an emphasis on youth ages 10-17.

| STATEWIDE YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK (SYSN) | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| FY: | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Percentage of SYSN youth not referred to juvenile probation | 98.4% | 98.3% | 98.5% | 98.6% | 98.6% |
| Annual number of youth served | 5,720 | 5,273 | 4,384 | 4,191 | 4,198 |
| Average monthly number of youth served | 3,126 | 3,055 | 2,506 | 2,251 | 2,345 |
| Average monthly cost per youth served | \$52.94 | \$43.65 | \$50.71 | \$56.48 | \$52.56 |

TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT (TJJD)

The Prevention and Intervention programs of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) are authorized in Section 203.0065 of the Texas Human Resources Code in 2011, and initiated in early 2012 when the Texas Juvenile Justice Board transferred money from its juvenile correctional strategies to the community-based prevention and early intervention strategy.

Section 203.0065 of the Texas Human Resources Code defines prevention and intervention services as “programs and services intended to prevent or intervene in at-risk behaviors that lead to delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school, or referral to the juvenile justice system.” The statute indicated that the populations to be served through these services were at-risk youth, ages 6 through 17 years old and their families.

Through these grants, probation departments partner with a variety of providers to offer a range of services to youth ages 6 to 17 years who are at increased risk of later involvement with the juvenile justice system. Some departments partnered with local community youth service organizations to provide educational assistance, mentoring, character development, and skills building (e.g., problem-solving, anger management, conflict resolution skills, etc.) after school or during summers. Other departments focused on providing parents of at-risk youth with the skills, services, and supports they need to better manage their children’s challenging behaviors.

Through a competitive request for proposals process in early 2012, TJJD awarded \$1.4 million in grant funds to 24 probation departments to implement prevention and early intervention programs for youth who were not under departmental supervision, but who were identified to be at increased risk of delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school, or referral to the juvenile justice system. In FY2013, the amount of appropriations rose to just over \$2.2 million. There were twenty-three probation departments who received funding throughout the state and information is available in previously published reports. In FY2013, the amount of appropriations rose to just over \$2.2 million and twenty-three probation departments received funding. Information about FY2013 is available in the October 2014 Agency Coordination for Youth Prevention and Intervention Services report. For FY2014 and FY2015, twenty-one probation departments received prevention funding for a total, each year, of \$2,222,175. Appendix D (pages 36 – 43) describes the programs and funding amounts for the counties currently receiving funding.

TJJD distributed a call for proposals focused on truancy reduction. Starting in FY2014, four truancy grants were initiated in the following counties: Comal, El Paso, Tarrant, and Karnes-Wilson. The counties identified their major focus for intervention as truancy intervention and worked with local elementary, middle, and high schools to provide services, supports, resources, and accountability to ensure students are in, and remain actively engaged, in school. These four grants, totaling \$435,151 were continued in FY2015. Appendix D (pages 44 – 45) describes the programs and funding amounts in the counties currently receiving what TJJD designates as Grant T funding. Total FY2015 funding for TJJD prevention and intervention programs equaled \$2,657,326.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Contracts for the prevention and early intervention services are regularly reviewed through the contractors' submission of annual fiscal and programmatic reports, monthly data provision, and quarterly data reports. If a deficiency or issue is identified regarding performance, a program specialist works with contractors to remedy the situation immediately. Data are analyzed to assess rates of successful completion of programming and the prevention programs' impact on participants' likelihood to be formally referred to the juvenile justice system. Additionally, agreements with the Texas Education Agency have been obtained and will facilitate future data matches for participants with parental consent to assess the prevention programs' impact on discipline referrals and school attendance. The first data match with the Texas Education Agency will be completed and reported in the October 2017 Agency Coordination for Youth Prevention and Intervention Services report.

Available performance outcomes, outputs and efficiencies for FY 2012-2015 are listed below.

| TJJD PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS | | | | | |
|--|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| FY: | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Number of youth who started in program | | 1296 | 2054 | 2141 | 2844 |
| Percentage of youth completing prevention program successfully | | 80.3% | 86% | 88% | 88.5% |
| Percentage of eligible youth not referred to juvenile probation during program participation | | 97.2% | 95.9% | 94.8% | 95.5% |
| Percentage of youth with improved school attendance | | | | | |
| Percentage of youth with decreased discipline referrals at school | | | | | |

Note: TJJD's Prevention and Early Intervention Programs were established in 2012. There is no data to report for 2011.

Data indicate over 2,800 children and adolescents began TJJD-funded prevention and early intervention services during FY2015. The average age of children receiving services was 11.68 years. Of the youth served, 56 percent were male; and 44% were female. Approximately 85 percent of the children served were members of minority groups. The average length of service varied with the type of program being provided, ranging from a brief 39 days in an intensive parenting skills program for families referred by the justice of the peace to a year- round community-based out-of-school program.

Over 88 percent of the youth who completed prevention and early intervention services in FY2015 did so successfully. About 8 percent of the youth failed to comply with the terms of the program and just under three percent were determined to be unsuitable for the program (e.g., were determined to be under active supervision, were outside the eligible age range, etc.)

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY (TEA)

The Texas Education Agency provides grants to school districts, charter schools, non-profit organizations and other eligible entities to provide voluntary dropout prevention services for grade K-12 students who are identified as at-risk of dropping out of school. TEA's dropout prevention and at-risk programs are designed and administered in accordance with statutory requirements and best-practice research for dropout prevention programs.

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS (CIS)

The CIS program is governed by The Texas Education Code, §§33.151-159; 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 89, Subchapter EE; and the General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 23, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. CIS is a school-based dropout prevention program that includes collaboration among educators, parents and students to provide one-to-one case managed services to students classified at-risk. The TEA administers the CIS program in Texas through a grant to eligible nonprofit agencies. CIS builds relationships with eligible students and provides an array of supports to prevent dropout risk factors such as academic failure, truancy, delinquency, pregnancy, and bullying. CIS intervenes in crisis situations, works to reduce risk factors, and strengthens protective factors. Students are referred to CIS by student support teams, campus administrators, teachers, and parents. CIS customizes a service delivery plan for each student which could include academic, social, emotional and behavioral supports to address the student need. Local CIS staff provides direct services, connects students with community resources or volunteers, monitors student progress, and adjusts the service plan as needed to keep the student progressing through school.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

To administer the program, TEA manages a set of policies, requirements, and a CIS student-level database. The agency provides technical support to and coordination of the CIS programs. TEA continuously monitors student data and quarterly reports performance outcomes to the legislature and other stakeholders.

| COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS (CIS) IN TEXAS | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| FY: | 2010-2011 | 2011-2012 | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 |
| CIS PROFILE | | | | | |
| CIS of Texas local chapters statewide (grantees) | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 |
| Campuses served | 865 | 773 | 691 | 817 | 850 |
| School districts | 148 | 144 | 121 | 149 | 145 |
| Case managed students served | 88,646 | 61,972 | 63,527 | 86,743 | 87,990 |
| Average state and local expenditure per case managed | \$995 | \$646 | \$936 | \$808 | \$662 |
| STUDENT PERFORMANCE (CASE MANAGED STUDENT OUTCOMES) | | | | | |
| Stayed in school | 99% | 98% | 98% | 99% | 98% |
| Promoted to the next grade | 94% | 94% | 94% | 94% | 94% |
| Eligible seniors graduated | 92% | 92% | 94% | 94% | 94% |
| Targeted for academics, improved | 87% | 87% | 89% | 89% | 89% |
| Targeted for attendance, improved | 75% | 75% | 79% | 78% | 79% |
| Targeted for behavior, improved | 92% | 92% | 93% | 93% | 93% |
| FUNDING | | | | | |
| General Revenue | \$500,000 | \$10,000,000 | \$10,000,000 | \$15,521,815 | \$15,521,816 |
| TANF | \$4,842,341 | \$4,842,342 | \$4,842,341 | \$4,842,342 | \$4,842,341 |
| State Compensatory Education | \$15,630,976 | | | | |
| Total | \$20,973,317 | \$14,842,342 | \$14,842,341 | \$20,364,157 | \$20,364,157 |

AMACHI TEXAS (MENTORING)

Amachi Texas is authorized by the General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 53, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. Amachi Texas provides one-to-one mentoring for youth ages 6 – 18 whose parents or family members are incarcerated, on probation, or recently released from the prison system. The goal is to “break the cycle” of incarceration in Texas and thereby positively impact school districts across the state. The youth that are served are referred through partnerships such as agreements with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Prison Fellowship and re-entry programs across Texas. The youth are engaged in both school-based and community-based mentoring relationships with trained volunteers. Ongoing supervision, support and training for volunteers are provided to support retention of mentors. Services include match-support and group activities for the volunteers, families and students served.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Lone Star implements the Amachi mentoring program. BBBS Lone Star subcontracts with eight BBBS agencies throughout Texas to provide mentoring for children of incarcerated adults.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Progress reports are provided to TEA quarterly. BBBS Lone Star reports outcomes to TEA annually. TEA has assigned a program specialist to monitor quarterly data reports and the final annual report of program outcomes. TEA program staff convenes meetings with BBBS leadership during the school year in order to provide guidance and to ensure the program is on track to accomplish goals.

| AMACHI TEXAS (MENTORING) | | | | | |
|--|------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| FY: | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Total number of matches/students served during the grant year | 2727 | 2459 | 2036 | 1730 | 1451 |
| Total number of matches still open at the end of the grant period | 1763 | 1503 | 1268 | 1052 | 919 |
| Percentage of matches eligible for six months sustainability that were sustained for six months | 83% | 86% | 83% | 82% | 86% |
| Percentage of matches eligible for twelve months sustainability that were sustained for twelve months | 59% | 61% | 58% | 55% | 58% |
| Percentage of students who were mentored for at least six months that were referred to the juvenile justice system* | 1.3% | 2.6% | 2% | 1.8% | 2.1% |
| Number and percentage of students who were mentored for at least six months who were referred to a disciplinary alternative placement at school* | 4.4% | 4% | 4% | 4.2% | 3.8% |
| Percentage of mentored students who were promoted to the next grade level* | 98% | 98.5% | 98.6% | 98.7% | 99% |
| Percentage of students who demonstrated increased self-confidence on the Program Outcome Evaluation (POE) | 82% | 88% | 78% | 90% | 94% |
| Percentage of mentored students who demonstrated an improvement in relationships on the Program Outcome Evaluation (POE) | 71% | 73% | 85% | 86.1% | 87% |

* According to the Teacher, Parent End of Year Survey Report

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

This prevention program is funded under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title IV, Part B, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (also known as Texas Afterschool Centers on Education or Texas ACE) provide academic enrichment opportunities during out-of-school hours for students in high-poverty and/or low performing schools. This federal grant is awarded to the Texas Education Agency, which in turn, competitively awards grants to eligible grantees to implement high-quality afterschool and summer programs. The Texas ACE Centers provide programs and services to support five key areas: academic performance, school attendance, school behavior, promotion rates, and graduation rates.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

To ensure that grantees funded by the ACE program are positioned to achieve program objectives, TEA has developed a research-based Critical Success Model (CSM). This model includes four Critical Success Factors (CSFs) which represent behavioral changes that should be demonstrated by students and families enrolled in the program, or by the adults working on their behalf, to ensure success in meeting programmatic goals and objectives. TEA contracts with an independent evaluator to determine which program strategies and approaches are most effective within particular contexts in encouraging student behaviors (CSFs) that lead to improved student outcomes.

Student Outcomes - Results from Independent Evaluation of Texas ACE Centers²:

- ACE program participation for students in grades 9–10 was associated with higher scores in reading/English language arts and mathematics on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).
- ACE program participants in grades 6–12 had fewer disciplinary incidents than nonparticipating students.
- Participation of students in grades 4–11 was associated with fewer school day absences.
- ACE participants in grades 7–11 who attended 30 days or more had an increased likelihood of grade promotion.
- ACE participants in grades 4–5 and grades 7–11 attending 60 days or more had an increased likelihood of grade promotion. For high school students attending 60 days or more, there was a 97% chance of being promoted to the next grade level.

Additional Findings³:

- Program quality matters. Centers implementing higher-quality practices were correlated with greater reductions in disciplinary referrals and higher rates of grade promotion than programs less apt to implement these practices.
- Connections with other organizations and agencies within the community greatly enhance afterschool centers' programming options.

² Naftzger, N., Manzeske, D., Nistler, M., Swanlund, A., Rapaport, A., Shields, J., Sugar, S. (2012). Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers: Final evaluation report. Naperville, IL: American Institutes for Research.

³ Naftzger, N., Manzeske, D., Nistler, M., Swanlund, A., Rapaport, A., Shields, J., Sugar, S. (2012). Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers: Final evaluation report. Naperville, IL: American Institutes for Research.

| TEXAS AFTERSCHOOL CENTERS ON EDUCATION (TEXAS ACE) | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| FY: | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Total Students | 200,658 | 228,919 | 221,187 | 200,819 | 148,456 |
| Total Regular Students * | 115,509 | 147,350 | 145,701 | 132,115 | 75,263 |
| Total Non-Regular Students | 85,148 | 81,569 | 75,486 | 68,704 | 73,193 |
| Students by Category ** | | | | | |
| Percentage of Limited English Proficiency youth served | 17% | 18% | 18% | 19% | 19% |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 68% | 69% | 69% | 69% | 66% |
| Special Needs | 8% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| At Risk | 49% | 75% | 47% | 52% | 52% |
| Migrant | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0.6% |

* "Regular" students are defined by the United States Department of Education as participants who attend the program for a minimum of 30 days in a calendar year

** Students may be part of more than one category

TEXAS ACADEMIC INNOVATION AND MENTORING

This prevention program is funded by the General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 54, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. The purpose of Academic Innovation and Mentoring (TX AIM) is to expand statewide an after-school and summer program designed to close the student achievement gap between minority, low-income, and English Language Learners who are at risk of dropping out of school and their counterparts. The program enables targeted students in low performing schools at 32 sites across Texas to enroll in after-school and summer recreational programs that effectively address student achievement gaps through a combination of skills gap remediation and at-risk prevention services. One half of the service sites are along the Texas-Mexico border. While traditional Boys & Girls Clubs (BGC) programming addresses comprehensive prevention needs, the TX AIM partner, Sylvan Learning Center, provides evidence-based curriculum through certified teachers. BGC staff assists the teachers. Through joint delivery of the program, children receive seamless services from two strong partners. Additionally, the staff development that BGC receives from the Sylvan partnership enables growth and capacity building for the Boys & Girls Clubs.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

The Boys and Girls Club and Sylvan Learning Center collect and monitor student data. Student level data is used during the school year to identify the academic needs of each individual student and to inform the provision of services for each student. The TEA program manager develops a progress report in order to manage program performance. The summary performance data is reported to TEA at scheduled points during the year, and is reported to TEA in a final performance report at the end of the school year.

| TEXAS ACADEMIC INNOVATION AND MENTORING | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| FY: | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| | | | | | |
| Percentage of TX AIM youth that advance an academic level* | 88% | 86% | 88% | 84% | 83% |
| Number of youth served annually | 2166 | 2337 | 2179 | 2288 | 2286 |
| Average monthly cost per youth served | \$58 | \$54 | \$57 | \$55 | \$55 |
| Percentage of Limited English Proficiency youth served | 28% | 40% | 23% | 25% | 35% |
| Percentage of TX AIM youth who received a C or better for a subject in which they received services | 92% | 88% | 85% | 89% | 87% |
| Percentage of TX AIM youth that passed the STAAR Test** | | | 85% | 75% | 70% |

* An academic level is defined as an increase in Growth Scale Value from pre-assessment to post

** Satisfactory or unsatisfactory scores were collected from 524 youth statewide.

TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT

TEXAS CHALLENGE ACADEMY (TCA)

The Texas ChalleNGe Academy (TCA) is an evidence-based program designed to provide opportunities to adolescents who have dropped out of school but demonstrate a desire to improve their potential for successful and productive lives. A voluntary, preventive program, the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program (NGYCP) helps young people improve their life skills, education levels and employment potential. Sixteen-to-18-year-old male and female high school dropouts are eligible to apply for the 17-month program, which includes a five-month residential phase followed by a 12-month mentoring phase. TCA was created in 1994 as an AmeriCorps Program and transitioned to a National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program (Seaborne ChalleNGe Corps) in 1999. Hurricane Ike's landfall on Galveston Island in 2008 forced the program to relocate to Sheffield, Texas. Texas has opened a second campus in Eagle Lake which began serving students in July 2015.

Authorized and funded through the Department of Defense, the National Guard Bureau is responsible for management and oversight of the 35 ChalleNGe academies that have graduated more than 120,000 participants to date. Led by professionals who emphasize structure, discipline, education and life skills, the Youth ChalleNGe Program provides those who drop out of school the chance to grow into productive and accomplished young adults.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Independent evaluations have found the Youth ChalleNGe program to be effective. MDRC, a social policy research organization, concluded a multi-year evaluation of the Youth ChalleNGe Program and found it significantly improves the educational attainment, employability and income earning potential of those who participate in the program.⁴ A RAND Corporation cost-benefit analysis found the Youth ChalleNGe Program generates \$2.66 in benefits for every dollar expended on the program, a return on investment of 166 percent.⁵ This rate of return is substantially above that for other rigorously evaluated social programs that target disadvantaged youth. Recently, Promising Practices Network identified the ChalleNGe Program as a "proven" program.⁶ "The Texas ChalleNGe Academy has graduated 859 students in the past five years with an average high school completion rate of 71.7%. The average academic growth rate was two years and seven months with an average of five academic credits recovered during the 22 week residential phase.

| TEXAS CHALLENGE ACADEMY (TCA) | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| FY: | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Enrolled | 186 | 232 | 244 | 246 | 178 |
| Graduated | 138 | 194 | 199 | 200 | 108 |
| Retention % | 74.19% | 83.62% | 81.56% | 81.3% | 60.0% |
| HS Completion | 104 | 145 | 160 | 95 | 75 |
| HS Completion % | 75.36% | 74.74% | 80.40% | 47.5% | 70.0% |
| TABE Math Growth (yrs) | 3.7 | 2.4* | 2.2* | 2.1* | 2.0* |
| TABE Reading Growth (yrs) | 2.3 | 2.4* | 2.2* | 2.1* | 2.0* |
| AVG # of Credits per student | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 |

* Grade equivalent reporting changed to reporting the total combined growth

⁴ MDRC. (2011). *Staying on Course: Three-Year Results of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Evaluation*

⁵ RAND Corporation. (2012). *A Cost-Benefit Analysis of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program*.
http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR1193.html

⁶ <http://www.promisingpractices.net>

SECTION 4:

Dropout and Delinquency Prevention and Intervention Coordination Activities of Rider 17.07 Workgroup

IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR, THE WORKGROUP HAS ENGAGED IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- Identified common challenges and prioritized areas of opportunities related to the implementation of truancy reform in Texas. Member agencies collaborated to address challenges in the following ways:
 - Convened a truancy stakeholders meeting to discuss strategies, barriers and recommendations for truancy interventions.
 - DFPS and the Texas Military Department provided TEA with information about STAR and Texas Challenge Academy programming to share with school districts to assist in their truancy prevention efforts.
 - TEA shared DFPS and the Texas Military Department resource information with school districts to assist districts with accessing community services available to students, families and schools.
 - Made presentations to providers that are connected with each agency to share program information and strategies to strengthen interagency coordination.
 - TEA and DFPS presented information on prevention and intervention strategies and programs at the National Dropout Prevention Conference in November, 2015.
 - Discussed the development of workshop/session to offer at relevant conferences on how youth service providers can develop and strengthen relationships with schools. As a result, an Education Summit will be convened in November 2016 as part of the Strengthening Youth and Families Conference.
- Shared information and updates on agency and legislative activities which stand to impact various prevention/intervention efforts, including:
 - DFPS Independent evaluations related to community perceptions of STAR and CYD providers and services among schools in order to inform state contracting requirements and providers' outreach and programming efforts. Trends and findings of these evaluation projects may provide useful information to other community groups as well.
 - TJJD shared the form used to obtain parental permission to do a data match with TEA to track outcomes, pre- and post- service delivery, with DFPS for potential replication.
 - DFPS/PEI's efforts to shift the messaging related to juvenile delinquency prevention programs to one that reflects a general positive youth development focus, in recognition of the broader outcomes associated with these programs. This positive youth development approach is an intentional, pro-social approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive. This positive youth development focus recognizes, utilizes, and enhances youths' strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.
 - An overview of the Military Families and Veterans Pilot Program and the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEP) and their roles within the prevention/intervention continuum. (See Appendices D and E).

- Reviewed the new Texas Statewide Behavioral Health Strategic Plan, coordinated by the Health and Human Services Commission. The plan was adopted in the spring of 2016 to promote coordination of the behavioral health services identified in the plan. Discussed opportunities to coordinate prevention and intervention services related to the goals, objectives and strategies in the plan.
- Examined each of the delinquency, dropout prevention and intervention programs funded by participating agencies, the populations and locations served, and evidence of the programs' effectiveness. (See [Appendix A](#))

SECTION 5:

Key Considerations and Next Steps in Coordinating Services

The workgroup identified several areas of consideration requiring focused attention for continuing efforts. Several of these activities are driven in large part by the engagement of other agencies or entities, as well as legislative direction.

CONSIDERATION 1:

Truancy reform has changed the way dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention services are provided.

With the passage of HB 2398 by the 84th Texas Legislature, schools have primary responsibility for preventing and addressing truancy. Schools are now required to implement truancy prevention and intervention strategies before referring a student to criminal court for truancy. Schools must document the prevention and intervention strategies used before they can refer a family to civil court for truancy. School districts are also required to have a truancy prevention facilitator or juvenile case manager to implement truancy prevention within the district. Interventions can include both school-based community services and referrals to community-based services aimed at addressing the student's truancy. Schools may also choose to provide truancy prevention services themselves without coordinating with or referring families to state-sponsored community-based providers. For students who are at-risk for truancy and are homeless, pregnant, in foster care or are the primary earners for their families, school are required to offer counseling support, not referral to truancy court.

Information about the processes that schools are using to implement the new truancy requirements is not available to service providers or to the state agencies at this time. For example, there is not a statutory requirement for school districts to report to TEA the name/contact information of the truancy prevention facilitator or juvenile case manager. There is not a statutory requirement for school districts to publicly post the contact information on the school district Website. The plans, protocols, programs or interventions that schools are using for truancy prevention and intervention are not required to be reported or posted on district Websites. Available community services for families to access for truancy prevention and intervention are not required to be posted on school district Websites.

This transition has proved challenging not only for many schools and parents, but also for the community-based organizations that serve at-risk youth through grants and contracts with TJJD, DFPS and from the Texas Military Department. In the past, courts have served as a centralized “hub” where youth could be connected with community-based services, such as truancy, delinquency and substance abuse prevention and intervention providers. Service providers in local communities must now develop referral networks and it is difficult for providers to develop relationships with multiple independent school districts and campuses. Schools and parents are often unaware of what truancy prevention and intervention services are available in their communities.

The landscape for engaging community service providers varies across the state. In some communities, schools rely on community-based partnerships to address truancy, which stretches the capacity of some community-based programs. However, many community providers experience difficulty with getting inside the school doors.

Following implementation of HB 2398, both STAR providers and the Texas Challenge Academy have experienced drops in enrollment. The workgroup agencies have taken steps to help providers adjust to the changed landscape

and broadly shared information to improve service utilization and coordination. DFPS has provided their contracted providers with additional guidance and is engaging them to think creatively with their outreach and engagement strategies. The ChalleNGe Academy has increased its outreach to schools and adjusted its recruitment strategies. TEA has presented information to the coordinating agencies and to service providers to assist with outreach strategies to schools, and shared resource information in its provider and education networks. The community-based prevention providers have been outreaching directly to schools, but often it is not effective. The agencies participated in a stakeholder meeting to discuss these challenges and generate ideas.

The coordination workgroup recognizes that any new policy takes time to implement effectively, and adjustments are often necessary in policy and programs. It also takes time for all organizations to develop new business strategies and relationships. Frequently information must be provided in several formats, to several stakeholders and often several times for outreach to be effective. There may be policies or additional strategies that the state could implement to increase effective coordination between school districts and state sponsored community intervention and prevention programs.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Determine how state supported community based prevention and intervention services can be included in TEA's best practice truancy prevention measures
- Explore opportunities for the agencies to jointly develop a resource guide of state sponsored truancy intervention and prevention strategies and programs
- Continue to identify additional coordination activities to increase awareness of community-based resources available to schools
- Assist prevention and intervention providers with professional development in engaging schools, building effective partnerships with them, and thinking "outside of the box"
- Investigate how to identify ISD truancy prevention contacts
- Identify and target outreach to ISD truancy contacts
- Investigate how DFPS and TEA can work together to target truancy prevention services to students in foster care

CONSIDERATION 2:

Many youth in need of dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention services present with active, untreated behavioral health concerns.

Prevention and intervention providers report serving children and youth with more complex needs. Students with serious mental health concerns are twice as likely as peers without serious mental health concerns to drop out of school.⁷ Between 1999 and 2009, 9 out of 10 students classified as having an emotional disturbance in a Texas public school were suspended or expelled from school for discretionary reasons.⁸ In 2014, 54% of youth offenders committed to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) had a need for treatment by a licensed or specially trained provider for a mental health related issue,⁹ more than double what would be expected in the general population. During the same year, 93% of youth committed to TJJD were in need of alcohol or drug treatment.¹⁰ STAR providers with DFPS report mental health and substance use concerns among the top three presenting problems they see with youth referred to them.

⁷Wagner, M. (1995). "Outcomes for youths with Serious Emotional Disturbance in Secondary School and Early Adulthood." *Critical Issues for Children and Youths*. 5(2).

⁸CSG Justice Center. (2011) *Breaking School Rules Report*. <http://justicecenter.csg.org/resources/juveniles> Accessed May 1, 2012.

⁹Texas Juvenile Justice Department. TJJD Commitment Profiles for FY 2014. Data distributed to Regionalization Task Force Members. September 2015.

¹⁰Texas Juvenile Justice Dept. TJJD Commitment Profiles for FY 2014. Data distributed to Regionalization Task Force Members. Sept. 2015.

Not all dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention programs are equipped to serve youth with significant needs. When a youth presents with mental or behavioral health concerns the provider is unable to address, it is important that the provider has a referral network to make sure the youth and family is connected to services he or she needs to be successful.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Explore opportunities to engage with the Texas Statewide Coordinated Behavioral Health Council, led by the Health and Human Services Commission, in order to improve provider referral networks, and increase access to behavioral health services for youth who are at-risk

CONSIDERATION 3:

The Every Student Succeeds Act offers opportunities to strengthen dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention efforts.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the first major overhaul of the federal elementary and secondary education law in over a decade, takes effect in the 2017-18 school year. It replaces the No Child Left Behind Law enacted in 2001. This act includes several provisions that can support state and district efforts to prevent students from dropping out of high school, re-engage out-of-school youth, and assisting students who are in, or returning to, the community from the juvenile justice system.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Explore opportunities to leverage provisions within ESSA to help community service providers work with school districts in a collaborative effort to improve the delivery and coordination of dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention services

APPENDIX A:

Detailed Information of Workgroup Agency Delinquency and Dropout Prevention and Intervention Services

Rider 17.07 Coordination of Prevention Services Workgroup

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

STATEWIDE YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK (SYSN): Provide prevention and early intervention programs that seek to increase protective factors and target services to at-risk youth for prevention of poor outcomes associated with juvenile delinquency. SYSN contracts provide community and evidence-based juvenile delinquency programs focused on youth ages 10-17 in each DFPS region. The SYSN program was funded through Rider 32 during the 80th Legislature. The rider indicated that \$3,000,000 of the initial funding be allocated.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star

Total Funds FY 15: \$1,525,000

Brief Description of Program: Provides School-Based Mentoring and Community-Based Mentoring. The Statewide Youth Services Network contracts provide community and evidence-based juvenile delinquency prevention programs focused on youth ages 10 through 17, in each DFPS region.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 1,847

Counties Served: Anderson, Angelina, Archer, Armstrong, Atascosa, Austin, Bailey, Bandera, Bastrop, Baylor, Bee, Bell, Bexar, Blanco, Borden, Bosque, Bowie, Brazoria, Briscoe, Brooks, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Callahan, Cameron, Camp, Carson, Cass, Castro, Chambers, Cherokee, Childress, Clay, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collin, Collingsworth, Colorado, Comal, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Dallas, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Delta, Denton, Dickens, Dimmit, Donley, Duval, Eastland, Edwards, El Paso, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Floyd, Fort Bend, Franklin, Freestone, Frio, Gaines, Garza, Gillespie, Gray, Grayson, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hale, Hall, Hamilton, Hansford, Hardeman, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Hartley, Hays, Hemphill, Henderson, Hidalgo, Hill, Hockey, Hood, Hopkins, Hudspeth, Hunt, Hutchinson, Jack, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Johnson, Jones, Karnes, Kaufman, Kendall, Kenedy, Kent, Kerr, Kimble, King, Kinney, Kleberg, La Salle, Lamar, Lamb, Lampasas, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Lipscomb, Live Oak, Llano, Lubbock, Lynn, Marion, Mason, Matagorda, Maverick, McCulloch, McLennan, McMullen, Medina, Milam, Mills, Montague, Montgomery, Moore,

Morris, Motley, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Nolan, Nueces, Ochiltree, Oldham, Orange, Palo Pinto, Panola, Parker, Parmer, Polk, Potter, Rains, Randall, Real, Red River, Roberts, Robertson, Rockwall, Runnels, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, San Saba, Shelby, Sherman, Smith, Somervell, Starr, Tarrant, Taylor, Terry, Titus, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Uvalde, Van Verde, Van Zandt, Walker, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Wheeler, Wilbarger, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, Wise, Wood, Yoakum, Zapata, and Zavala.

Eligibility Requirements: Youth ages 6 through 17. Target ages are 10-17. Youth in the conservatorship of CPS are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who have involvement with Juvenile Probation are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who are on informal probation or have not been adjudicated are eligible. If Child Protective Services (CPS) is in the process of an investigation of child abuse/neglect, SYSN Contractors may not register the youth or family for services until the CPS investigation is closed.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Use of Evidence-Based Programs. Use of BBBS Strength of Relationship Survey measuring happiness, closeness, and coping. Also uses the BBBS Youth Outcome Pre-Post Survey measuring dimensions of the mentoring relationship (social competence, scholastic competency, social acceptance, educational expectations, grades, truancy, attitudes towards risk, parental trust, and presence of special adult. These measures have been found to be reliable and valid based on previous youth development research.

Texas Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs

Total Funds FY 15: \$1,525,000

Brief Description of Program: Boys & Girls Club Experience, Stay Smart Youth-Based Curriculum, Smart Leaders Youth Leadership Development

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 2,362

Counties Served: Angelina, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Bell, Bexar, Brazoria, Brazos, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Cameron, Coke, Collin, Colorado, Comal, Cooke, Coryell, Culberson, Dallam, Dallas, Dawson, Denton, Ector, El Paso, Ellis, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Gillespie, Gray, Grayson, Gregg, Guadalupe, Harris, Harrison, Hays, Hidalgo, Hill, Hood, Hopkins, Howard, Hunt, Jefferson, Kendall, Kenedy, Lampasas, Lubbock, Matagorda, Medina, Menard, Midland, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Potter, Presidio, Randall, Robertson, Rockwall, Rusk, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Tarrant, Taylor, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Val Verde, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Williamson.

Eligibility Requirements: Youth ages 6 through 17. Target ages are 10-17. Youth in the conservatorship of CPS are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who have involvement with Juvenile Probation are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who are on informal probation or have not been adjudicated are eligible. If Child Protective Services (CPS) is in the process of an investigation of child abuse/neglect, SYSN Contractors may not register the youth or family for services until the CPS investigation is closed.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: Use of Evidence-Based programs. Programs include Boys & Girls Club Experience, Stay Smart Youth-Based Curriculum, and Smart Leaders Youth Leadership Development

COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (CYD): Overview of Agency Prevention Programs: To reduce juvenile crime in 15 targeted zip codes that have the highest incidence of juvenile crime in the State of Texas. The benefit is a reduction in referrals to juvenile probation and an increase in protective factors by participating youth. This program has been funded since the 75th Legislature in Rider 23.

Lubbock Regional MHMR

Total Funds FY 15: \$403,664.84

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 822

Counties Served: County: Lubbock, City: Lubbock, Zip Code 79415

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

United Way of Amarillo & Canyon

Total Funds FY 15: \$403,664.84

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 595

Counties Served: County: Potter, City: Amarillo, Zip Code: 79107

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

City of Austin Health and Human Services

Total Funds FY 15: \$403,664.98

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 883

Counties Served: *County:* Travis, City: Austin, Zip Code: 78744

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Rio Grande Empowerment Zone Corporation (Brownsville)

Total Funds FY 15: \$0 (No contract for Brownsville CYD was signed until November 2015 and fiscal agent changed from Rio Grande Empowerment Zone to The Good Samaritan Center of San Antonio. Contract started November 1, 2015 and actual program services started January 1, 2016).

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 0

Counties Served: County: Cameron, City: Brownsville, Zip Code: 78520

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Rio Grande Empowerment Zone Corporation (McAllen)

Total Funds FY 15: \$403,664.84

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based

curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development, and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 1,038

Counties Served: County: Hidalgo, City: McAllen, Zip Code: 78501

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

City of Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation

Total Funds FY 15: \$400,618.31

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 741

Counties Served: County: Nueces, City: Corpus Christi, Zip Code: 78415

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent

Behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Community Council of Greater Dallas (CCGD), 2 Contracts/Zip Codes

Total Funds FY 15: \$403,664.84 each zip code

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: Zip Code 75216: 839
Zip Code 75217: 856

Counties Served: County: Dallas, City: Dallas, Zip Codes: 75216 & 75217

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

El Paso Human Services, Inc.

Total Funds FY 15: \$403,664.84

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 894

Counties Served: County: El Paso, City: El Paso, Zip Code: 79924

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Tarrant County

Total Funds FY 15: \$403,664.84

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 706

Counties Served: County: Tarrant, City: Fort Worth, Zip Codes: 76106 & 76164

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

The Children's Center

Total Funds FY 15: \$387,984.82

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 790

Counties Served: County: Galveston, City: Galveston, Zip Code: 77550

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (2 Contracts/Zip Codes)

Total Funds FY 15: Gulfton (77081 Zip Code): \$403,665.78
Pasadena (77506 Zip Code): \$403,664.58

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: Zip Code 77081 - 836
Zip Code 77506 - 661

Counties Served: County: Harris, City: Houston (77081) & Pasadena (77506)

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. The magnitude was slight but was statistically significant. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

The Good Samaritan Center of San Antonio

Total Funds FY 15: \$208,064.24

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 669

Counties Served: County: Bexar, City: San Antonio, Zip Code: 78207

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning

Communities in Schools - Heart of Texas

Total Funds FY 15: \$402,856.31

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based

curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 923

Counties Served: County: McLennan, City: Waco, Zip Code: 76707

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning

COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (CYD) TEEN SUMMIT: Overview of Agency Prevention Programs: The Teen Summit is an annual event held for select participants of the DFPS CYD program with a goal of developing leadership skills and attitudes as well as providing youth with an avenue to solve problems relevant to their communities rather than have solutions imposed on them without input and opportunity to formulate and then present their own ideas and opinions. Participation is open to those Community Youth Development (CYD) participants that are active in their Youth Advisory Council (YAC).

Texas State University-San Marcos

Total Funds FY 15: \$100,000.00

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in zip codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas zip codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 87

Counties Served: All Eligible CYD ZIP CODES STATEWIDE

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted zip code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a

CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, juvenile probation status, services provided, Leadership Skills Pre/Post Survey, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: Leadership Skills Pre/Post Survey

TEXAS CHALLENGE ACADEMY, TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT

Overview of Texas Military Department Prevention Programs: The mission of the Texas Challenge Academy (TCA) is to reclaim the potential of at-risk teens through mentoring, education, training and volunteer service. The program is a seventeen and a half month voluntary program for 16-18 year old high school dropouts or those at risk of dropping out. Youth who volunteer to attend the program learn about TCA from various sources including school counselors, advertising campaigns, Juvenile Justice sources and word of mouth from previous attendees. The initial portion of the program is a 22 week residential phase with a quasi-military (learn to adhere to military courtesies, discipline and a regimented schedule) approach in either Sheffield (West Texas) or Eagle Lake (East Texas). During this phase, the cadets complete the eight core components (academic excellence, responsible citizenship, leadership/followership, service to community, jobs skills, life coping skills, health and hygiene, and physical fitness). All the youth are given the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and/or GED or earn credits to return to their home high school. During the residential phase, each youth is paired with an adult mentor of their choosing who will assist them during the entire 12 month post residential phase to ensure they stay on track with their "Post Residential Action Plan" that they developed during the residential phase. All cadets will complete a minimum of 40 hours of community service projects during the residential phase. While the academic opportunities are a vital part of the residential phase, the benefits of the non-cognitive skills developed through the other core components and the discipline and structure of the military training model has shown to greatly enhance the young person's chances for future success. The program is provided at no cost to the youth or their family and is funded by a combination of federal and state funds (75% federal, 25% state). The TCA campuses are two of the 35 National Guard Youth Challenge Programs which are located in 27 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. The National Guard Program has been operating since 1993 and since 1998 in Texas with our two campuses at Sheffield and Eagle Lake.

Total Funds FY 15: \$3.4 million (\$2.55 million federal and \$0.845 million state) for each campus

Brief Description of Program: The mission of the Texas Challenge Academy (TCA) is to reclaim the potential of at-risk teens through mentoring, education, training and volunteer service. The program is a seventeen and a half month voluntary program for 16-18 year old high school dropouts or those at risk of dropping out.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 108 graduates

Program Locations: Campuses at Sheffield (West Texas) and Eagle Lake (East Texas) serving youth statewide (Program has six recruiters to select students from all over the state.)

Eligibility Requirement: 16-18 years old, citizen of Texas/US, not currently on parole/probation for other than "juvenile offenses", no felony convictions or pending charges, drug free at admission, drop out or at risk of dropping out.

Data Elements Collected: # of graduates, % completing HSD/GED or credit recovery, % completing post residential phase, hours of community service.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Yes. Independent study by MRDC. A recent RAND Corporation cost-benefit analysis found the Youth Challenge Program generates \$2.66 in benefits for every dollar expended on the program, a return on investment of 166 percent.

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

Academic Innovation and Mentoring (AIM)

Total Funds FY 15: \$1,500,000

Brief Description of Program: Academic Innovation and Mentoring (AIM) is an innovative partnership between Texas Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs (BGC) and the Sylvan Learning Centers. AIM is designed to close the gaps in the student achievement among minority, low-income, and Limited English Proficient students who are at risk of dropping out. Support services for students include: After-school academic instruction and tutoring, Assigned adult advocates, Parent engagement activities, Character and leadership development in problem-solving and decision-making, Fine arts activities, Sports, fitness, recreation, and health and life skills. Includes data system to assess needs, plan services, and monitor student performance and engagement.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 2,286

Program Locations: 45

Eligibility Requirements: Eligibility for funding is limited to the Texas Boys and Girls Club, as specified in the General Appropriations Act, Article III.

Data Elements Collected: Number of students who advanced an academic level in a math or reading assessment. Number of discipline referrals.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Data elements reported in the FY 2015 final report from TX AIM include: average monthly cost per student (\$55), number of students who advanced an academic level in a math or reading assessment (88%), percentage of youth receiving a C or better in a subject for which they received services (87%), and percentage of students that passed the STAAR state assessment (70%).

21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

Total Funds FY 15: \$106,206,512

Brief Description of Program: The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) serves as a supplementary out-of-school time program to enhance local reform efforts. The program assists students in meeting academic standards in core subjects (math, reading, science, social studies) by providing out-of-school time services to students and their families through community learning centers that offer an array of enrichment activities to complement regular academic programs.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 148,456

Program Locations: 181 districts

Eligibility Requirements: Eligible grantees include: Local Education Agencies, non-profits, for-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, and city or county government agencies.

Data Elements Collected: School attendance, discipline referrals, graduation rates, grades, statewide academic assessment i.e. TAKS and STAAR scores, and juvenile justice referrals.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Results from the most recent evaluation of 21st CCLC: Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers Interim Evaluation Report, March 2013: 9th-12th grade participants were associated with higher test scores in Reading/ELA & Mathematics, compared to non-participants. 6th-12th grade participants had fewer disciplinary incidents, compared to non-participants. 4th-11th grade participants were associated with fewer school day absences. Participants attending 60 days or more had an increased likelihood of grade promotion, ranging from 18% to 97% with the largest increase in high school.

Communities In Schools (CIS)

Total Funds FY 15: \$20,364,157

Brief Description of Program: The mission of Communities In Schools (CIS) is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. CIS partners with educators, students, and parents to identify needs of students who are at-risk of dropping out of school. By engaging community resource partners, CIS customizes learning supports for students and provides individual case management. CIS monitors student level data and tracks education outcomes. The CIS program model has six components: Academic Support, College and Career Readiness, Enrichment activities, Health and Human Services, Parent and Family Involvement, and Supportive Guidance and Counseling.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 599,997 received school-wide services, and 87,990 received intensive case management services.

Program Locations: 145 districts, 850 campuses

Eligibility Requirements: Eligible grantees include 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organizations

Data Elements Collected: School attendance, discipline referrals, graduation rates, grades, statewide assessment scores, and juvenile justice referrals.

Evidence of Effectiveness: During fiscal year 2015, 27 CIS affiliates served 599,997 students on 850 campuses in 145 school districts. Of those, 87,990 were provided with individual case management services. Case management services expenditures are an average of \$662 per student, taking into account both state and local funding. Reported outcomes included: 98% stayed in school (grades 7-12); 94% were promoted to the next grade (grades K-11); 94% of students that were eligible to graduate graduated; 89% of students that were targeted for academic intervention showed improvement; 79% of students that were targeted for attendance intervention showed improvement; and 93% of students that were targeted for behavior intervention showed improvement.

Amachi

Total Funds FY 15: \$1,250,000

Brief Description of Program: The purpose of Amachi is to provide one-to-one mentoring for

youth ages 6 – 14 whose parents or family members are incarcerated or recently released from the prison system to break the cycle of incarceration. Youth are engaged in mentoring relationships established primarily through partnerships with school districts, faith-based organizations, non-profit partnerships, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Prison Fellowship and Re-Entry programs across Texas.

Number of Youth Served FY 15: 1,451

Program Locations: Dallas metropolitan area, Houston metropolitan area, Central Texas Region, El Paso, Gulf Coast Region, Hereford, Lubbock, the Panhandle Region and the South Texas Region.

Eligibility Requirements: Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Lone Star implements the Amachi mentoring program and subcontracts with eight BBBS programs throughout Texas to provide mentoring for children of incarcerated adults.

Data Elements Collected: Data is maintained by BBBS Lone Star. Progress reports are reported to TEA quarterly. BBBS Lone Star reports outcomes to TEA annually.

Evidence of Effectiveness: During the 2014-2015 school year, FY 2015, 1,451 students had a mentor and were served. Of these, 86% of matches that were active during the school year were sustained for at least six months. 99% of mentored students promoted to the next grade level. 94% of all matches reported improvement in at least one of the four areas of personal and social well-being. Fewer than 3% of the students were referred to the juvenile justice system and 3.8% of students were reported as referred to an alternative education program.

TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

GRANT 5. PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

BASTROP County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$37,250

Brief Description of Program: Partners with school districts to provide parenting skills and education to adults who have children with increased likelihood of juvenile justice system involvement

Counties Served: Bastrop, Lee, Washington

Eligibility Requirements: Children between the ages of 6 and 17 years of age and are at risk of entering the juvenile justice system

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

BEXAR County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$589,230

Brief Description of Program: School based truancy prevention and early intervention program in partnership with Communities In Schools, Southwest Key and the North East Independent School District (ISD). The project targets children and youth who are at increased risk of delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school or referral to the juvenile justice system. The "Leadership Institute" component provides mentoring, community service, team-building, computer and technology training, outdoor activities, and etiquette to adolescents.

Counties Served: Bexar

Eligibility Requirements: Youth in the North East ISD who are ages 11- 17, not currently under department supervision but who are at increased risk of delinquency, truancy, school dropout, or referrals to the juvenile justice system

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

BURNET County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$17,305

Brief Description of Program: Uses trained facilitators to deliver Curriculum Based Support Group program, a research-based curriculum which reduces anti-social attitudes and rebellious behavior through small group character-building classes

Counties Served: Blanco, Burnet, Gillespie, Llano, and San Saba

Eligibility Requirements: Participants are fourth and fifth grade at-risk youth in certain elementary schools

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

CAMERON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$126,924

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with the Boys and Girls Club of San Benito to provide safe and structured afterschool activities, including mentoring, tutoring, educational opportunities and social activities, with a focus on increasing school attendance and academic achievement

Counties Served: Cameron

Eligibility Requirements: High-risk youth, ages 6-17, with a special emphasis on siblings of youth already involved in the juvenile justice system

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

CROSBY County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$60,000

Brief Description of Program: A Licensed Professional Counselor provides individual, family and play therapy and counseling, along with parenting skills coping skills, making choices, and anger management to at-risk youth identified by the Juvenile Probation Department, County Sheriff's Department, local city police, school districts or concerned parents

Counties Served: Crosby

Eligibility Requirements: Youth, ages 6-17, who are not currently under juvenile supervision and who are at increased risk of juvenile justice system involvement

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

ECTOR County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$75,927

Brief Description of Program: A full-time intervention officer acts as an advocate for youth and works with other agencies to identify specific needs that will allow youth to remain in or return to his or her home campus. Services include home visits to assist in behavior management, school visits to assist with behavior, attendance, anger management, coping skills, social skills, substance abuse prevention and individual counseling

Counties Served: Ector

Eligibility Requirements: Ector ISD students ages 6-17 years of age who have been or are at risk of being suspended off campus to a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) and/or expelled

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

ELLIS County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$150,000

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Ennis Boys & Girls Club who provide an evidence-based afterschool mentoring program and life skills curriculum; youth are referred to the program by the Truancy Court, Municipal Court, school counselors, social agencies and parents

Counties Served: Ellis

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 6 to 17, with special attention on younger children

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

EL PASO County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$144,242

Brief Description of Program: Bullying prevention and parenting education services are provided in partnership with local municipal court. Mentors and case management services are provided through contracts with collaborative partners

Counties Served: El Paso

Eligibility Requirements: At-risk youth ages 6-17 who are not involved with the juvenile justice system

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

FORT BEND County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$64,258

Brief Description of Program: Provides juvenile probation officer to work with specialized truancy magistrate to administer proactive case management strategies together with meaningful sanctions

Counties Served: Fort Bend

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

GUADALUPE County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$98,500

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Seguin Youth Services to provide a variety of programs through a neighborhood-based youth center located in a low-income, high-risk area. Services include transportation to afterschool programming, snacks, tutoring, computer labs, recreational activities, life skills curriculum, vocation projects, camping, and other programs designed to increase parent involvement

Counties Served: Guadalupe

Eligibility Requirements: Elementary and middle school children and youth between the ages of 6-13 who, because of their risk factors, are at increased risk of juvenile justice involvement

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

HALE County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$124,920

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Communities in Schools (CIS) of the South Plains to provide supportive guidance and counseling, tutoring, academic enrichment, pre-employment training, mentoring, and other support services to at-risk youth

Counties Served: Hale, Swisher, Castro

Eligibility Requirements: Students between the ages of 6-17 years. CIS serves youth who are identified by teachers, parents, and the youth themselves

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

RANDALL County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$9,834

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Texas AgriLife Extension Service for Randall County to work with selected youth on a 4-H swine project. 4-H swine projects require approximately 300 hours of work training, cleaning out pens, feeding, walking and preparing swine for show. Youth and their families attend periodic training sessions, combining information related to livestock management and character development

Counties Served: Randall

Eligibility Requirements: Youth, ages 12-14, who have been identified by the school district as having one or more risk factors for delinquency

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

TARRANT County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$114,348

Brief Description of Program: Family engagement coordinator provides a combination of case management and clinical services to select youth and their families

Counties Served: Tarrant

Eligibility Requirements: Youth (ages 6 years through 5th grade) who have been placed in the school's Disciplinary Alternative Education Program

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

TOM GREEN County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$100,000

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Youth Advocate Mentoring Program to provide advocate mentors who work intensively with the youth (up to 15 hours per week) and then taper services to fewer hours as the youth progress in the program

Counties Served: Tom Green

Eligibility Requirements: High risk youth ages 6-13 who are not involved with the juvenile justice system will be referred from selected schooldistricts

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

TRAVIS County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$102,220

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Southwest Key to provide the Family Keys Model (intensive home-based case management services)

Counties Served: Travis

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 11 and 13 who are truant, running away, experiencing behavioral problems at school, or experiencing conflict with family members

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

VAN ZANDT County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$53,412

Brief Description of Program: The “Just Kids Hands on Pets Education” program is a canine program designed to teach developmentally appropriate discipline, responsibility, compassion for life, motivational problem-solving, self-esteem and nurturing. Special needs youth may also attend a six-week program provided by licensed counselors.

Counties Served: Van Zandt

Eligibility Requirements: Children and youth ages 6-17 who are at increased risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system. Referrals will come from local school districts, local law enforcement, Child Advocacy Centers, adult probation, child protective services, and local municipal courts

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

WEBB County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$89,630

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Southwest Key to provide the Family Keys Model (intensive home-based case management services) to youth between the ages of 11 and 13 who are truant, running away, experiencing behavioral problems at school, or experiencing conflict with family members

Counties Served: Webb

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 6 and 17 years of age at increased risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

WHARTON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$121,475

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with the “Just Do It Now” program to provide structured and supervised out-of-school activities centered on drug awareness and intervention, mentoring, character development, leadership training and academic enrichment. Although they accept referrals from other community sources, their primary referral source is local schools

Counties Served: Wharton

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 6 to 17 who are at increased risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system

WILLACY County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$50,000

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with a licensed counselor to provide youth and families with Strengthening Families program, a science-based family skills training designed to increase resiliency and minimize risk factors for behavioral, emotional, academic, and social problems

Counties Served: Willacy

Eligibility Requirements: At-risk children and youth between the ages of 6 years through 17 years of age who are not currently under the supervision of the juvenile justice system

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

WILLIAMSON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$29,000

Brief Description of Program: Provides prevention education programs using the Curriculum Based Support Groups, Kids Connection/Youth Connection, the SMART Moves program, and support groups using trained facilitator. Through partnerships with The Georgetown Project and Lifesteps, the department also offers a parent education and media campaign to impact the larger community.

Counties Served: Williamson

Eligibility Requirements: At-risk children, youth, and adolescents, ages 6 through 17

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

ZAPATA County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$63,700

Brief Description of Program: Partners with Boys and Girls Club of Zapata County and King's Way to provide safe, structured, and supervised venues for youth during after-school hours that combines tutoring, mentoring, and character building to improve youth's academic performance and character development

Counties Served: Zapata

Eligibility Requirements: Youth who are at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system and who are between 10-16 years

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

GRANT T. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

COMAL County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$54,748

Brief Description of Program: The Prevention Services Coordinator evaluates student needs and provides community referrals and case management services to ensure the child and family access the most helpful and relevant programs for their needs

Counties Served: Comal

Eligibility Requirements: Children ages 6-11 with school attendance problems who are unsupported by youth-serving agencies, churches, non-profit organizations, civic groups or neighborhood programs

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

EL PASO County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$40,500

Brief Description of Program: Provides intensive home based services (home visits, case management, service coordination, skills building, and facilitation of educational modules) to select youth and families

Counties Served: El Paso

Eligibility Requirements: Middle school youth ages 12-15 attending Riverside Middle School and their caregivers/parents. Youth must not be currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile probation department, have any pending formal referrals, nor be under active juvenile justice supervision. Eligible youth must have demonstrated a history of low attendance and meet at least two individual and/or familial risk factors cited in the OJJDP's database on Truancy Reduction Programs

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

KARNES/WILSON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$118,140

Brief Description of Program: School Attendance Specialists provide intensive attendance improvement and truancy reduction services, including in-school and in-home services, Individual Attendance Plans for each participant and identification of the root causes of truancy for each student. The program also works with the Karnes County Community Coalition, which includes mental health specialists, substance abuse prevention services, and counseling services for youth and families who need additional support

Counties Served: Karnes, Wilson

Eligibility Requirements: Students with histories of unexcused absences from the Floresville ISD School District, Karnes City ISD, and Kenedy ISD

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

TARRANT County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 15: \$221,763

Brief Description of Program: Provides the youth and family with case management, assessment, mediation, and referral to the most appropriate community-based interventions, including trauma-informed mental health intervention as indicated

Counties Served: Tarrant

Eligibility Requirements: Youth who are found to be chronically absent from the 1st to 8th grade

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals

TJJD TOTAL GRANT T _____ **\$435,151**

TJJD TOTAL GRANT S _____ **\$2,222,175**

TJJD TOTAL PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION FY 15 _____ **\$2,657,326**

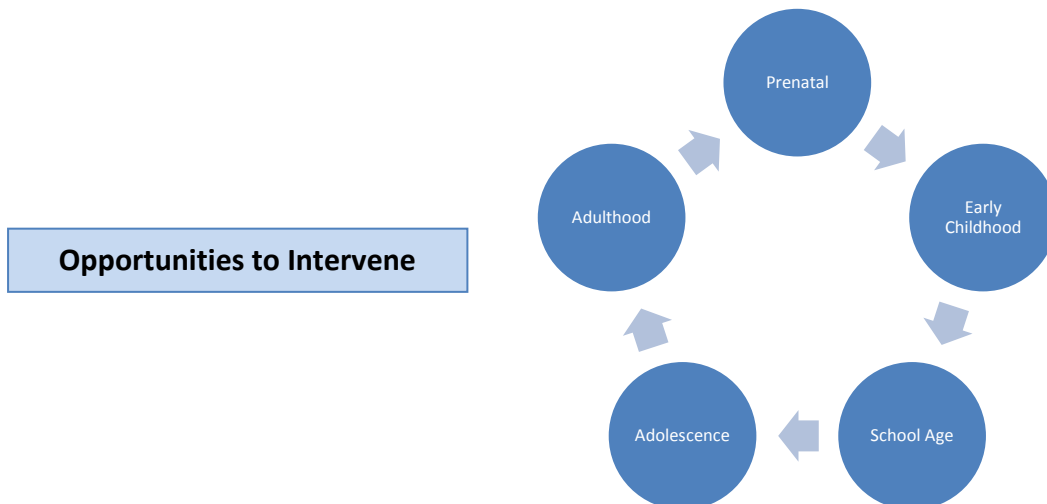
APPENDIX B:

Delinquency and Dropout Prevention Practices: Pursuing a Developmental Continuum of Services

The earlier prevention efforts can begin, the better, as many risk factors and predictors of dropout and delinquency begin before kindergarten. Resiliency develops over time, building upon protective factors, such as relationships established in early childhood, and evolving as a child grows into school age and adolescence.

Just as preventative measures like vaccines often need to be repeated as a child grows older to extend protection from illnesses, so too do youth often require “booster shots” to extend the protective buffers established earlier in their development and to protect against new risk factors that emerge as they grow older. An intervention that provided protections during elementary school may lose its impact during middle school, for example, when another intervention may be needed to address evolving developmental needs and risk factors. A continuum of effective interventions have been identified that range from prevention programs targeting early childhood through individualized interventions that prevent justice involved youth from recidivism. Common strategies among them include:

- **Prenatal:** Interventions that provide prenatal care to expectant mothers as well as prevent expectant mothers' exposure to alcohol, drug use, smoking, and stress have the potential to prevent many subsequent problems for a child.
- **Early childhood:** Individual and family interventions in the preschool period, such as home visits, parent training, and quality education and childcare services, are used to improve life-course outcomes.
- **School age:** Once children become of school age, they are faced with peer pressure and school risk factors. Many prevention efforts at this next developmental stage are universal school or classroom interventions focused on encouraging positive behavior social and emotional skill building. Other efforts include targeted programs for at-risk or high-need students and their families, providing smaller classroom communities, family training courses, and afterschool enrichment activities.
- **Adolescence:** Adolescent prevention programs focus on bonding students with their school and community, and span across the middle and high school years. By enhancing school climate, belonging and academic achievement through activities like service learning, positive youth development, career development, mentoring, tutoring, and counseling, programs are designed to reduce risky behavior and keep students in school.
- **Delinquent youth:** Therapeutic models for delinquent youth have been found effective for reducing recidivism rates and strengthening relationships within families.



APPENDIX C:

Dropout and Delinquency Prevention Resources

Several resources exist to assist the state, communities, and service providers in identifying and selecting programs and practices with demonstrated effectiveness in preventing dropout and delinquency. These include:

- **Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.** The CASEL Guide shares best-practice guidelines for district and school teams on how to select and implement SEL programs. <http://www.casel.org/guide>
- **The Center for Evidence-Based Practice: Young Children with Challenging Behavior** is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs to raise the awareness and implementation of positive, evidence-based practices and to build an enhanced and more accessible database to support those practices. <http://challengingbehavior.fmhi.usf.edu/>
- **The Institute of Education Sciences: What Works Clearinghouse.** This resource provides research, practice guides and intervention reports for dropout prevention and evidenced-based decision making. <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>
- **Effective Strategies for Dropout Prevention.** The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network provides research and resources on effective strategies for dropout prevention. <http://dropoutprevention.org/effective-strategies/>
- **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Model Programs Guide.** OJJDP provides a library of effective and promising model intervention programs. <http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/Topic>
- **CrimeSolutions.gov.** The National Institute of Justice provides a library on effective and promising delinquency prevention programs. <https://www.crimesolutions.gov/TopicDetails.aspx?ID=62#practice>
- **Juvenile Justice Evidence-Based Practices.** This resource hub provides recent research on key issues, model policies, and reform trends relating to evidence-based practices. <http://jje.org/hub/evidence-based-practices/>
- **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Literature Reviews.** OJJDP provides a literature review library on a variety of topics. <http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/Resource/LitReviews>
- **What Works and What Does Not? Benefit-Cost Findings from Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP).** A benefit-cost analysis on prevention programs by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP). http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/ReportFile/1602/WSipp_What-Works-and-What-Does-Not-Benefit-Cost-Findings-from-WSIPP_Report.pdf
- **Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development,** a project of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado, serves as a resource for governments, foundations, businesses, and other organizations trying to make informed judgments about investments in evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that are effective in reducing antisocial behavior and promoting a healthy course of youth development. <http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/>
- **The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Model Programs Guide (MPG)** is designed to assist practitioners and communities in implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that cover the entire continuum of youth services from prevention through sanctions to reentry. <http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/>
- **Changing Lives: Delinquency Prevention as Crime-Control Policy (University of Chicago Press, 2006).** A book by Peter W. Greenwood outlining the history of promising and ineffective delinquency prevention interventions and public policy strategies to increase the range and quality of delinquency programs.
- **SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (NREPP).** NREPP is an evidence-based repository and review system designed to provide the public with reliable information on mental health and substance abuse interventions. <http://nrepp.samhsa.gov/>
- **The National Child Traumatic Stress Network.** This organization provides information and resources on a variety of policy and program topics related to the impact of trauma on children, including the impact of trauma on learning. <http://www.nctsn.org/resources>

APPENDIX D:

Military Families and Veterans Pilot Program

Due to multiple combat deployments and frequent moves, military families, especially young enlisted families face different challenges that may require assistance such as home visitation services, parent education services and other prevention activities. To address these needs, HB 19 from the 84th Legislature requires the Department of Family and Protective Services to develop and implement a preventive services pilot program targeted to serve military families and veterans who have committed, or experienced, or who are at a high risk of family violence or child abuse and neglect. The goal of the Military Families and Veterans Pilot is to establish flexible, community-based child abuse and neglect prevention programs in select military communities targeting families of children ages 0-17.

The Legislature appropriated 3.2 million dollars to the Department of Family and Protective Services for the Military Families and Veterans Pilot Program. Initial pilot communities include Bell, Bexar and El Paso Counties. The three sites have all incorporated a broad array of services based on a community needs assessment to best serve youth and families in those communities. Service examples include counseling, home visiting, mentoring, parent education and other ancillary services.

Examples of strategies communities are encouraged to use include:

- Providing wrap-around case management services for military families and connecting them to community resources
- Evidence-based home visiting and parent education appropriate for the population
- Innovative approaches to helping military parents and caregivers understand how transitions, separation and anxiety can affect their child's behavior
- Using the Adverse Childhood Experiences Survey (ACES) to inform service delivery
- Partnering with organizations to change community norms around healthy parenting and seeking community support
- Participating in a multi-layered public-health model to support safe, stable, and nurturing relationships, such as implementation of the Triple P Positive Parenting Program.

APPENDIX E:

Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEPs)

Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEPs) are a statutory collaboration between the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. The goal of JJAEPs is to reduce delinquency, increase offender accountability and rehabilitate offenders through a comprehensive, coordinated community-based juvenile probation system. Students are assigned to a JJAEP program as a result of violating Texas Education Code Chapter 37 listed offenses which include: 1) mandatory expulsion from their home school for serious infractions of the Student Code of Conduct, 2) discretionary expulsions for serious infractions that occur off-campus as well as other on-campus infractions of the Student Code of Conduct, or 3) are court ordered due to Texas Penal Code Title V offenses or probation conditions.

JJAEP programs assist students in performing at grade level as a result of academic interventions provided by the JJAEP in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and self-discipline. Many JJAEPs utilize curriculum software to support credit recovery and attainment of grade level skills. JJAEPs also include group and individual programming to enhance daily living skills, improve communication, develop anger management skills, and prevent substance abuse, all of which strengthen protective factors. Every student in a JJAEP and their families may receive referrals to community services for a variety of supports as needed: medical, rent assistance, family counseling, food assistance, and transportation.

Every biennium, TJJD provides a report to the legislative budget board and other legislative entities. This *JJAEP Performance Assessment Report: 2014-2015* is a comprehensive report which provides a general overview of the program, statutory requirements, and includes discussion on program elements and in-depth statistical analysis of JJAEP programs taking into consideration the various components and differing structure of individual programs. A complete copy of the report can be found at: http://www.tjjd.texas.gov/publications/reports/JJAEP_2015_Report.pdf. JJAEPs have continued to evolve and adapt in order to better serve this challenging population of students and to accommodate the fluctuating population. The overall success of these programs depends on local collaboration and the dedicated staff who work in these unique programs.

Some of the major findings based on both quantitative and qualitative data collected over the 2014-2015 school year include:

- 82% of students in JJAEPs were considered to be at-risk students
- At least one of the counseling services (i.e., individual, family counseling, substance abuse, anger management, and group) were offered in every program
- 71% of students returned to their local school district after successfully completing an expulsion term or a term of probation
- For all JJAEP students with 90 days of attendance or more, the average grade equivalency results for math increased by 85% of a grade level; average grade equivalency for reading increased by 91% of a grade level
- Absences during the two six-week periods, prior to and after JJAEP participation declined by 15%
- 62% of students experienced a decrease in disciplinary referrals after participating in a JJAEP
- 55% of juveniles did not have contact with juvenile probation within one year; therapeutic program models had the lowest total re-contact rate

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